

Current signaling processors cannot provide these advantages. SCPs process TCAP message queries and do not process call set-up messages sent from a user. SCPs process queries generated by a switch and respond to that same switch. SCPs must be invoked by a switch and respond to that switch.

5 Signaling points and their associated switch CPUs are bundled with the switch and the switch CPU is coupled to a switch matrix. The added functionality of this system increases its cost and reduces its flexibility.

Another proposed signaling processing system is logically segregated according to call, service, connection, and channel. As such, it must rely on a proprietary signaling
10 protocol to communicate among the logically segregated components. This system does not provide a single logical component that processes signaling and generates signaling for a network element connected to the communication path.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate variations that will support the requirements of the invention. As such, the invention should not be restricted to only the
15 embodiments listed above. The invention should only be defined by the following claims.

Claims

What is claimed is:

0953604-03469

1. A method for operating a telecommunications system to selectively validate calls placed to called numbers from callers with associated caller numbers, wherein the system handles a plurality of types of calls, the method comprising:

accepting a call into the telecommunications system;

5 receiving the caller number and the called number for the call;

before validating the call, determining if the call is a type of call that requires validation;

if the call does not require validation, then processing the called number, and

10 if the call requires validation, then entering a validation database with the caller number before further processing of the called number.

2. A method for operating a telecommunications system to selectively validate calls placed to called numbers from callers with associated caller numbers, wherein the system handles "800" type calls and at least one other type of call, the method comprising:

15 accepting a call into the telecommunications system;

receiving the caller number and the called number for the call;

determining if the called number is an "800" type number;

10 if the called number is an "800" type number, then entering an "800" type number database with the called number before entering a validation database with the caller number; and

20 if the called number is not an "800" type number, then entering a validation database with the caller number before further processing of the called number.

add
B1

add R2